

Asbury Theological Seminary ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange

Papers, PDF Files, and Presentations

A Theology of Poverty in Today's World

2012

Summary of Lausanne 2010 prosperity Gospel

Evangelical Advocacy: A Response to Global Poverty

Follow this and additional works at: <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/theologyofpovertypapers>

Recommended Citation

Evangelical Advocacy: A Response to Global Poverty, "Summary of Lausanne 2010 prosperity Gospel" (2012). *Papers, PDF Files, and Presentations*. Book 4.

<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/theologyofpovertypapers/4>

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the A Theology of Poverty in Today's World at ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Papers, PDF Files, and Presentations by an authorized administrator of ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. For more information, please contact thad.horner@asburyseminary.edu.



CAPE TOWN 2010 SESSION SUMMARY AND SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

This Summary and Synopsis document has two components:

Page 1 is the summary of all the speakers in the 90-minute session.

Pages 2 and following include a synopsis of each specific video segment extracted from the full 90-minute session.

FULL SESSION SUMMARY – INTEGRITY: Calling the Church of Christ Back to Humility, Integrity and Simplicity

DATE OF SESSION: 23 October 2010

SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY: Connie Potter (CT2010 Communications Session Summary Team)

PRESENTER(S): Chris Wright, Femi Adeleye, Elke Werner

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE/ PROBLEM: The main problems facing the church are not from the outside - they are from God's own people. A "different" gospel is rapidly growing in nations and denominations. Christ redeemed both men and women.

KEY POINTS:

- *Idols among God's own people: the idols of power and pride, the idol of popularity and success; the idol of wealth and greed
- *The prosperity gospel focuses on material possessions, physical well-being and success in this life. Scripture is often manipulated to promote that false message
- *God calls and gifts women as well as men. The gifts of all are needed to reach all

Dr Chris Wright discussed the idols that tempt Christian workers. He presented Scripture which showed that all three "idols" were present in both Old and New Testament. The antidote for the idol of power and pride is repentance in humility; for popularity and success is integrity; for wealth and greed it is simplicity.

Jesus faced the same temptations in the desert but resisted, using the word of God. The Reformation in Europe centuries ago was necessary because of the same three idols. The world-wide evangelical church should take the lead in cleaning up idolatry in our day and age.

When Jesus preached repentance it was to religious leaders. We need a radical return to the Lord through Humility, Integrity, Simplicity—HIS.

Misinterpretation of Scripture misleads some to believe that Jesus came to make us rich rather than take away sins; it overlooks that giving is primarily a form of worship; it portrays Jesus as rich; it overlooks the needs of others.

TAKEAWAY

A call to a time of personal reflection and repentance. The three presenters and Brenda McNeil Salter, emcee for each morning session, led the Congress participants in a responsive prayer of repentance.



1. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: Calling the Church Back – Chris Wright
SEGMENT DATE: 23 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

British theologian Dr Chris Wright describes God's promise to Abraham to make him a blessing in which all the nations would be blessed. God created a people redeemed through Christ, doing what is just and right. According to the prophets and Jesus Christ, the greatest obstacle to God's people is not persecution or resistant cultures but the church's disobedience.

We have been seduced by the idols of power and pride, popularity and success, wealth and greed. Jesus faced these same temptations in the wilderness but deliberately chose the path of simplicity. As happened five hundred years ago, we are in desperate need of Reformation. Before we take the gospel to the world, evangelicals must be marked with humility, integrity and simplicity for our mission's sake and for the world's sake. No biblical mission is possible without biblical living.

Study questions:

1. How does God's call to Abraham determine and define our mission to the nations?
2. Discuss Dr Wright's categorical statement that the greatest obstacle to the church is its disobedience. How would you define this disobedience?
3. From what you heard, what form would a second Reformation of evangelicalism take?
4. What do humility, integrity and simplicity mean in your church's mission?



2. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: Sketch: "Clutter" - Cape Town 2010 Performing Arts Team
SEGMENT DATE: 23 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

Alan sits at his computer as Elaine enters the room carrying two cartons. He asks what is in the cartons. She starts to answer but Alan goes into a monologue about the book he has written, about a raffle and how young people would rather party than listen to a lecture.

Elaine finally breaks down and tells Alan that she is leaving the ministry. The cartons carry her stuff. She started reading his book this morning in the park, but she saw a child in a wheelchair and she couldn't keep on reading. How does his buying a boat and a big house fit with children in wheelchairs? Elaine has tried to talk to Alan about the contradiction but he doesn't listen.

Study questions:

1. How can we become more aware of our own blindness in relation to our unwillingness to listen to others and to our inability to recognize our own lack of integrity?
2. How can we lovingly confront others in whom we see a lack of integrity?

By Jenny Vaughn Hall. Performed by Jenny Vaughn Hall and Daniel Jones. Directed by Jerry Mofokeng and Alison Siewert.

Script ©2010 Alison Siewert. To obtain a full script at no charge, please contact Alison Siewert at alisonsiewert@gmail.com.



3. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: The Prosperity Gospel – Femi Adeleye
SEGMENT DATE: 23 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

Nigerian author Femi Adeleye spoke of another gospel, namely the success gospel and any other understanding of Christ's Gospel that advocates obtaining more than we need. While God has promised to meet believers' needs, the success gospel seeks primarily health and wealth in this life. This false gospel takes success as evidence of God's approval and often uses pressure to get people to give financially in order to obtain blessing.

Jesus never preached a prosperity gospel. He warned about desiring an abundance of material things. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news to the poor. Giving is an act of worship, not a way to become rich. Any gospel that is primarily about money contradicts the essence of Christ's love and concerns. Since we are all on a pilgrimage between two nakednesses we should travel light and live simply to honour our Lord.

Study questions:

1. Are there elements of how you understand the gospel that are questionable in the light of this message?
2. How does your lifestyle recommend Christian faith to others around you?



4. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Integrity
SEGMENT TITLE: Men and Women – Elke Werner
SEGMENT DATE: 23 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Don MacLeod and Bill Armerding (CT2010 Globalink Team)

German author Elke Werner says that in the beginning God created male and female and pronounced it good. Today much about the world is not good, including the conflict between men and women, even in the church. In an age in which gender has been redefined and pornography mainstreamed through the Internet, is the church part of the problem or part of the solution?

The church should be a prophetic voice for the equality and mutual submission of men and women, where the spiritual gifts of both are recognized and used. We need everyone to fulfill the Great Commission. We must reach out to the suffering women of the world, value gender differences, and strategize to enable men and women to live in partnership.

Study questions:

1. What concrete steps could you take to increase awareness of women in need within your church and community?
2. Does your own attitude toward the role of women need to change?